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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/054,933	04/03/1998	CRAIG R. FRINK	A0521/7153	3289

26643 7590 02/15/2002

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EXAMINER

BUI, KIEU OANH T

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2611

DATE MAILED: 02/15/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/054,933	FRINK, CRAIG R.
	Examiner KIEU-OANH T BUI	Art Unit 2611

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
2) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371 of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

2. Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Durana et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,018,765).

Regarding claim 1, Durana et al (or “Durana” hereinafter) discloses an output interface for a sender of video data having an output for providing video data, i.e., video data is provided to users or the system including an output interface such as video and audio outputs (Fig. 6 and col. 8/lines 16-27) for providing video data (col. 1/line 55 to col. 2/line 4); and a valid data signal associated with the data indicating whether the associated data includes valid video data, i.e., a programmable logical device (PLD) control data transfers (Fig. 9/item 222, and col. 14/lines 28-38), under the control of this PLD inputs and outputs device, the status of data, whether it is a valid video data or not, can be determined based on their memory addresses (see col. 16/lines 37-66); and a valid command signal indicating whether the data includes command data, i.e., a command valid data is supplied by the host in transferring those valid data (col. 5/line 55 to col. 6/line 9); and wherein the command data includes a memory address at a receiver of the data, i.e., the command data comprises a full set of functions which allows the viewer to control a program (col. 5/lines 55-67) which also including a memory address or memory allocation table for the host to send appropriate requested data (Fig. 10, and col. 13/lines 12-20 & col. 16/lines 16-36 for more details on a memory map); wherein the output interface transfers data and asserts one of the valid data signal and the valid command signal to the receiver in response to a request

signal received from the receiver, i.e., valid data signal including the valid command signal are transferred by the output interface as mentioned above to the receiver or the viewer (Fig. 2/at the set-tops 42) in response to a request signal from the receiver, for instance, as the viewer sends a request signal for selecting a program by pushing a preselected button on his/her set-top box or a remote control (col. 4/lines 4-21).

Regarding claim 2, Durana discloses an input interface for a receiver of video data having an input for receiving data, i.e., input interface of the decoder in this configuration having input for receiving data from the host (Fig. 3/item 14, and col. 1/line 55-col. 2/line 4); and a valid data signal associated with the data indicating whether the associated data includes valid video data, i.e., a programmable logical device (PLD) control data transfers (Fig. 9/item 222, and col. 14/lines 28-38), under the control of this PLD inputs and outputs device, the status of data, whether it is a valid video data or not, can be determined based on their memory addresses (see col. 16/lines 37-66); and a valid command signal indicating whether the data includes command data, i.e., a valid command data is supplied by the host in transferring those valid data (col. 5/line 55 to col. 6/line 9); wherein the command data includes a memory address at the receiver, i.e., the command data comprises a full set of functions which allows the viewer to control a program (col. 5/lines 55-67) which also including a memory address or memory allocation table for the host to send appropriate requested data (Fig. 10, and col. 13/lines 12-20 & col. 16/lines 16-36 for more details on a memory map); wherein the input interface transfers video data received to the memory address specified in the command data in the memory of the receiver (as illustrated in Figs. 10 & 12, and col. 13/lines 12-20 & col. 16/lines 16-36 for a specified memory address as brought up by the command data, which provides an allocation memory address table for the receiver to perform).

Regarding claim 3, Durana teaches a device for reading video data from a memory in another device, i.e., a multimedia server (as illustrated in Fig. 2), comprising: an output interface having an output for providing data, and a valid data signal associated with the data indicating whether the associated data is valid video data, and a valid command signal indicating whether the data includes command data, and wherein the command data includes a memory address in the memory in the other device, and having an input for receiving a request signal from the other device; wherein the output interface transfers data to the other device in response to a request signal received from the other device (see the Examiner's discussion in claim 1 above); and an input interface having an input for receiving data, and a valid data signal associated with the data indicating whether the associated data is valid video data (see Examiner's discussion in claim 2 above).

As for claim 4, in further view of claim 3 above, Durana further disclose comprising: a memory, i.e., a mass storage for storing a plurality of video data files (Fig. 3/item 12, and col. 4/lines 31-44 & col. 6/lines 10-23); and wherein the input of the input interface further receives a valid command signal indicating whether the data includes command data, wherein the command data includes a memory address in the memory of the device, wherein the input interface transfers valid data received to the memory address specified in the command data in the memory of the device (see Examiner's discussion in claim 2 above).

As for claim 5, in further view of claim 3 above, Durana further suggests comprising: a queue of memory addresses sent in command data to the other device, i.e., stream of data sent to a first in first out memory (FIFO) in providing a read/write storage to buffer data transferred over the system bus (Fig. 9, and col. 11/line 40-col. 12/line 13) which including memory addresses conveyed in the command data (col. 13/line 54 to col. 14/line 26); and wherein the input of the input interface further receives a valid command signal indicating whether the data includes command data, i.e., a valid command data is supplied by the host in transferring those valid data

(col. 5/line 55 to col. 6/line 9); wherein the command data includes a memory address in the memory of the other device, wherein the input interface determines whether the memory address corresponds to a memory address in the queue, i.e., the command data comprises a full set of functions which allows the viewer to control a program (col. 5/lines 55-67) which also including a memory address or memory allocation table for the host to send appropriate requested data (Fig. 10, and col. 13/lines 12-20 & col. 16/lines 16-36 for more details on a memory map) as well as an illustration in Figure 12 for memory address of the other device therein.

Regarding claims 6-8, Durana discloses “a device for providing video data to another device, comprising: a memory for storing video data; an input interface having an input for receiving data, and a valid command signal indicating whether the data includes command data, wherein the command data includes a memory address in the device, wherein the input interface reads video data from the memory in the device using the memory address specified in the command data; an output interface having an output for providing data, and a valid data signal associated with the data indicating whether the associated data is valid video data; wherein the output interface transfers the video data read from the memory to the other device in response to a request signal received from the other device”; “wherein the input of the input interface further receives a valid data signal indicating whether the data includes valid video data, wherein the input interface transfers valid data received to the memory address specified in the command data in the memory of the device”; and further “comprising a queue of memory addresses received in command data from the other device; and wherein the output of the output interface further sends a valid command signal indicating whether the data includes command data, wherein the command data includes a memory address in the memory of the device, wherein the input interface outputs a memory address from where the data was read” (see claims 3-5 above).

Regarding claim 9, Durana discloses a device for receiving video data from another device, i.e., a decoder for receiving video data from the host (Fig. 2/item 14) comprising: a memory for storing the video data, i.e., a mass storage for storing a plurality of video data files (Fig. 3/item 12, and col. 4/lines 31-44 & col. 6/lines 10-23); an input interface having an input for receiving data, i.e., input interface of the decoder in this configuration having input for receiving data from the host (Fig. 3/item 14, and col. 1/line 55-col. 2/line 4); and a valid data signal indicating whether the data includes valid video data, i.e., a programmable logical device (PLD) control data transfers (Fig. 9/item 222, and col. 14/lines 28-38), under the control of this PLD inputs and outputs device, the status of data, whether it is a valid video data or not, can be determined based on their memory addresses (see col. 16/lines 37-66); and a valid command signal indicating whether the data includes command data, i.e., a valid command data is supplied by the host in transferring those valid data (col. 5/line 55 to col. 6/line 9); wherein the command data includes a memory address in the device, i.e., the command data comprises a full set of functions which allows the viewer to control a program (col. 5/lines 55-67) which also including a memory address or memory allocation table for the host to send appropriate requested data (Fig. 10, and col. 13/lines 12-20 & col. 16/lines 16-36 for more details on a memory map); wherein the input interface stores video data received from the other device in the memory in the device at the memory address specified in the command data (as illustrated in Figs. 10 & 12, and col. 13/lines 12-20 & col. 16/lines 16-36 for a specified memory address as brought up by the command data, which provides an allocation memory address table for the receiver to perform); an output interface having an output for providing a request signal, wherein the other device transfers the video data to the device in response to the request signal, i.e., valid data signal including the valid command signal are transferred by the output interface as mentioned above to the receiver or the viewer (Fig. 2/at the set-tops 42) in response to a request signal from the

receiver, for instance, as the viewer sends a request signal for selecting a program by pushing a preselected button on his/her set-top box or a remote control (col. 4/lines 4-21).

As for claim 10, Durana discloses "a device for writing video data to a memory in another device, comprising: an output interface having an output for providing data, and a valid data signal associated with the data indicating whether the associated data is valid video data, and a valid command signal indicating whether the data includes command data, and wherein the command data includes a memory address in the memory in the other device, and having an input for receiving a request signal from the other device; wherein the output interface transfers data to the other device in response to a request signal received from the other device" (see Examiner's discussion in claim 6 above).

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Henley et al (US Patent 5,761,417) discloses video data streamer having scheduler for scheduling request from users.

Falcon, Jr. et al. (US Patent 5,712,976) disclose video data streamer.

Belknap et al (US Patent 5,586,264) discloses video optimized media streamer.

Nadan (US Patent 5,321,750) discloses restricted information distribution system.

4. **Any response to this action should be mailed to:**
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314, (for Technology Center 2600 only)

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Krista Kieu-Oanh Bui whose telephone number is (703) 305-0095. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM, with alternate Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Faile, can be reached on (703) 305-4380.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.


ANDREW FAILE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600

Krista Bui
Art Unit 2611
January 30, 2002